

REMARKS/AGRUMENTS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 4-10, 13, 14, 16, 19-22 and 24-26 are pending in the application.

Claims 1, 4-5, 7-10, 13, 14, 16, 19-22 and 24-26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,903,730 of Asai, et al. (hereafter "Asai").

CLAIM REJECTIONS

35 USC §102 (a)

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 4-5, 7-10, 13-14, 16, 19-22 and 24-26 under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) as being anticipated by Asai. Applicants submit that the pending claims are not anticipated by Asai. In regard to the rejection of claim 1, the Examiner has stated in part that:

"A method of displaying information relating to a workflow driven by a computer system comprising the steps of: executing the workflow; calculating execution statistics relating to the execution of the workflow on the computer system; displaying a workflow diagram on a display screen associated with the computer system; and overlaying the execution statistics over the workflow diagram, wherein the execution statistics are for various steps displayed in the workflow diagram" is disclosed by... (12/08/03, Office Action, p. 3)

Applicants respectfully submit that amended claim 1 is not anticipated by Asai. Claim 1 recites the feature of "executing the workflow, the workflow implementing business rules." (Emphasis added) Asai does not disclose this feature as will be apparent from the following analysis of Asai. Asai describes a method of visualizing results of performance monitoring and analysis in a parallel computing system. (Asai, title) A parallel computing system executes an application by using multiple processors that run in parallel. (Asai, col. 1, ll. 20-23) Thus, Asai describes "collecting information on execution time of each routine being executed concurrently by the plurality of processors...." (Asai, col. 2, ll. 11-14) However, Asai is silent regarding what

type of routines are executed concurrently by the plurality of processors. Asai does not contemplate anywhere in his patent, the feature of “executing the workflow, the workflow implementing business rules....” Because Asai does not disclose this limitation of claim 1, from which claims 4-8 depend Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1 and 4-8 are not anticipated under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) by Asai.

The Examiner also rejected independent claim 9 under 35 U.S.C. §102(a). Claim 9 includes substantially similar limitations as claim 1, and recites “ a workflow server engine to execute workflows, the workflows implementing business rules....” (Emphasis added) Because, Asai does not disclose this limitation of Applicants’ claim 9 from which claim 10 depends, for the reasons discussed above with regard to claim 1, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 9 and 10 are not anticipated under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) by Asai.

The Examiner also rejected independent claim 13 under 35 U.S.C. §102(a). Claim 13 includes substantially similar limitations as claim 1, and recites “ executing the workflow, the workflow implementing business rules....” (Emphasis added) Because, Asai does not disclose this limitation of Applicants’ claim 13 from which claims 14, 16, and 19-22 depend, for the reasons discussed above with regard to claim 1, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 13-14, 16, and 19-22 are not anticipated under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) by Asai.

The Examiner also rejected independent claim 24 under 35 U.S.C. §102(a). Claim 24 includes substantially similar limitations as claim 1, and recites “ executing the workflow, the workflow implementing business rules....” (Emphasis added) Because, Asai does not disclose this limitation of Applicants’ claim 24, for the reasons discussed above with regard to claim 1, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 24 is not anticipated under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) by Asai.

The Examiner also rejected independent claim 25 under 35 U.S.C. §102(a). Claim 25 includes substantially similar limitations as claim 1, and recites “ executing the workflow, the workflow implementing business rules....” (Emphasis added) Because, Asai does not disclose

this limitation of Applicants' claim 25, for the reasons discussed above with regard to claim 1, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 25 is not anticipated under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) by Asai.

The Examiner also rejected independent claim 26 under 35 U.S.C. §102(a). Claim 26 includes substantially similar limitations as claim 1, and recites "executing the workflow, the workflow implementing business rules...." (Emphasis added) Because, Asai does not disclose this limitation of Applicants' claim 26, for the reasons discussed above with regard to claim 1, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 26 is not anticipated under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) by Asai.

For the foregoing reasons, applicant respectfully submits that the applicable objections and rejections have been overcome and that the claims are in condition for allowance. If there are any additional charges, please charge them to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

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